

SPORTSEXTRA

THE TIGER ■ November 23, 1996

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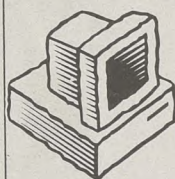
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So - What does that mean?

The Information Desk will have a temporary table set up in the Loggia, this will serve as our Info Desk for the next few weeks.

Operations will be moved up to the 8th floor, where you can find directors and staff. The phone numbers will remain the same.

Come See us in 807!

Call 656-7297 to reach:

Julie Walters-Steele • Director of Programs and Student Activities
Bryant Smith • Assistant Director of Minority Activities and Broadcast Media
Mandy Hays • Assistant Director of Organizations and Information Services
Adrian Bell • Administrative Assistant
Union Graduate Assistants

Call 646 HELP for Information Services

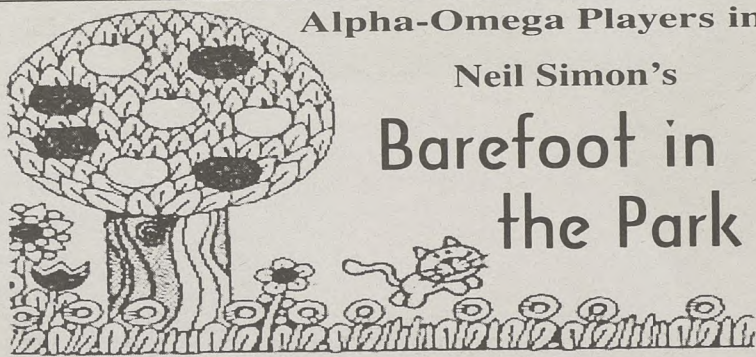
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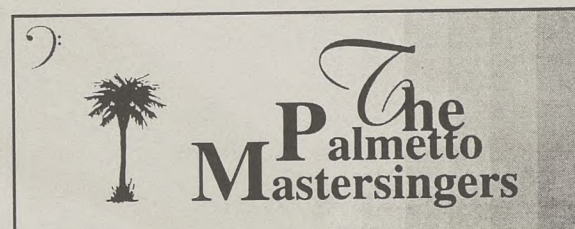
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Team Lineups



Clemson Offense

Pos.	No.	Name	Hgt	Wgt	Cl
LT	79	JIM BUNDREN	6-3	290	*Jr.
	61	Mark Landry	6-4	273	Jr.
LG	77	MATT BUTLER	6-3	290	*So.
	74	Brent Banasiewicz	6-3	280	*So.
C	55	JAMIE TRIMBLE	6-2	250	*Sr.
	73	Jason Gamble	6-3	275	Jr.
RG	75	GLENN ROUNTREE	6-3	290	*Jr.
	64	Zane Lewis	6-2	283	So.
RT	70	HOLLAND POSTELL	6-6	285	*So.
	71	Corey Hulsey	6-7	345	Fr.
TE	82	LAMONT HALL	6-4	252	*Jr.
	85	Wesley Ellis	6-4	240	So.
SE	3	KENYA CROOKS	6-3	208	Jr.
	84	Mal Lawyer	6-1	170	Fr.
QB	15	NEALON GREENE	5-11	190	Jr.
	13	Billy Luckie	6-3	206	*Fr.
TB	27	RAYMOND PRIESTER	6-1	230	Jr.
	32	Kelton Dunnican	5-11	210	*Sr.
FB	18	EMORY SMITH	6-0	241	*Sr.
	32	Kelton Dunnican	5-11	210	*Sr.
FLK	2	JOE WOODS	5-9	160	*Sr.
	25	Brian Wofford	6-1	160	Fr.
PK	23	MATT PADGETT	6-0	200	Fr.
	31	David Richardson	6-1	178	Jr.

Clemson Defense

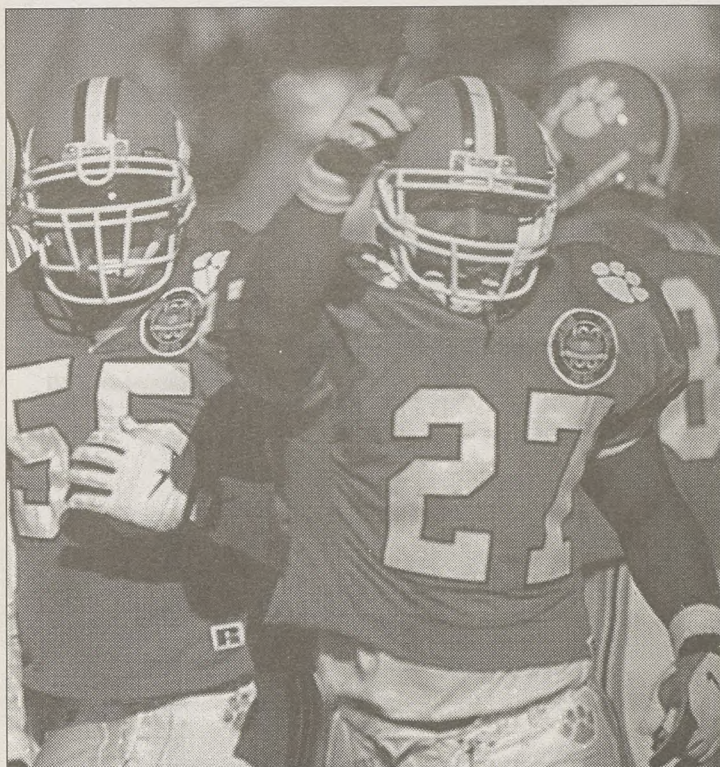
Pos.	No.	Name	Hgt	Wgt	Cl
BAN	52	ADRIAN DINGLE	6-3	250	So.
	20	Rudy Currie	6-3	200	*Jr.
DE	8	TREVOR PRYCE	6-6	278	*Jr.
	96	Tony Plantin	6-4	273	Jr.
MG	97	RAYMOND WHITE	6-3	265	*Jr.
	94	Donald Broomfield	6-4	262	*So.
DE	92	BRETT WILLIAMS	6-4	265	Gr.
	87	Eric Bradford	6-3	271	*Jr.
RUSH	47	HOWARD BARTLEY	6-1	205	*So.
	33	Tony DeSue	5-10	215	Gr.
ILB	42	MOND WILSON	6-3	243	*Jr.
	45	Harold Means	6-0	210	Fr.
ILB	41	ANTHONY SIMMONS	6-1	220	So.
	57	Chris Jones	6-1	210	Fr.
CB	9	DEXTOR MCCLEON	5-10	205	*Sr.
	43	Andy Ford	5-11	180	Sr.
SS	1	ANTWAN EDWARDS	6-1	210	So.
	28	Andre Carter	5-10	200	Gr.
FS	10	MICHAEL ALLEN	5-11	204	So.
	12	Domarco Fox	6-1	200	Gr.
CB	29	PETER FORD	5-11	180	Sr.
	22	Damond Ward	5-10	172	So.
P	37	KEVIN LAIRD	6-3	172	So.
	36	Michael Brice	5-11	182	*So.
HO	11	CHRIS ROBBINS	5-11	203	Sr.
SN	65	ELMER BENCH	5-9	216	Jr.
PR	9	DEXTER MCCLEON	5-10	205	*Sr.
KOR	9	DEXTER MCCLEON	5-10	205	*Sr.
	2	JOE WOODS	5-9	160	*Sr.

South Carolina Offense

Pos.	No.	Name	Hgt	Wgt	Cl
WR	88	MARCUS ROBINSON	6-4	209	Sr.
	21	Zola Davis	6-1	183	*So.
LT	79	JAMAR NESBIT	6-5	303	So.
	70	Andray Spearman	6-3	288	*So.
LG	78	TRAVIS WHITFIELD	6-4	285	*Jr.
	67	Jesse Washington	6-5	318	Jr.
C	53	PAUL BECKWITH	6-3	271	Jr.
	73	Jason Thomas	6-4	271	*Fr.
RG	63	ED HRUBIEC	6-1	283	*Jr.
	73	Jason Thomas	6-4	271	*Fr.
RT	75	RANDY WHEELER	6-2	296	Sr.
	68	Reggie Baker	6-5	296	Jr.
TE	41	JASON LAWSON	6-1	245	*Jr.
	86	Trevon Matthews	6-1	235	*Fr.
QB	1	ANTHONY WRIGHT	6-2	192	*So.
	8	Chad Barnhardt	6-1	220	So.
FB	32	STEVE MIXON	5-11	204	*Fr.
	19	Troy Hambrick	6-0	222	Fr.
TB	40	SCOTT MORITZ	5-10	190	Jr.
	26	Boo Williams	5-10	197	Fr.
WR	4	COREY BRIDGES	5-7	164	Sr.
	80	Donovan Norman	6-0	178	Fr.
PK	7	COURTNEY LEAVITT	5-11	220	Fr.
and	14	REED MORTON	5-8	191	Sr.

South Carolina Defense

Pos.	No.	Name	Hgt	Wgt	Cl
DE	89	MAYNARD CALDWELL	6-1	235	Sr.
	95	John Abraham	6-3	218	Fr.
DT	90	HENRY TAYLOR	6-2	285	Jr.
	97	Trey Pennington	6-5	234	Fr.
DT	93	MICHAEL MADDOX	6-3	275	*Jr.
	65	Patrick Garth	6-3	285	Sr.
DE	55	SELVESTA MILLER	6-3	251	*Jr.
	94	Matt Marsters	6-4	219	Fr.
OLB	49	BENJI YOUNG	6-0	213	*Sr.
	48	Jody Caldwell	6-1	227	*So.
MLB	52	SHANE BURNHAM	5-10	222	Jr.
	57	Errol Rochester	5-11	236	*Fr.
OLB	18	DARREN HAMBRICK	6-2	212	Jr.
	58	Corey Atkins	6-1	220	*Fr.
CB	5	TERRY COUSIN	5-9	170	Sr.
	9	Jason Joseph	5-10	189	*Fr.
CB	27	LEE WIGGINS	6-0	207	*Jr.
	13	Keris Sullivan	5-8	160	*So.
FS	12	ARTURO FREEMAN	6-0	187	So.
	3	Ray Green	6-3	190	*Fr.
SS	6	BEN WASHINGTON	5-11	204	Jr.
	28	Chris Abrams	6-0	178	Sr.
P	7	COURTNEY LEAVITT	5-11	220	Fr.
	15	Steve Florio	5-9	194	So.
HO	8	CHAD BARNHARDT	6-1	220	So.
LS	60	SCOTT BEEBE	6-2	207	*Jr.
PR	4	COREY BRIDGES	5-7	164	Sr.
KOR	5	TERRY COUSIN	5-9	170	Sr.
	26	Boo Williams	5-10	197	Fr.
KO	15	STEVE FLORIO	5-9	194	So.
or	7	COURTNEY LEAVITT	5-11	220	Fr.



HAPPY DAYS: Raymond Priester celebrates after scoring a touchdown against N.C. State last week. The Tigers won the game, 40-17.

MARC DEL VECCHIO/photo editor

Team Statistics

Category	CU	OPP
TOTAL OFFENSE	3,346	3,345
yards per game	334.6	334.5
NET YARDS RUSHING	1,951	1,233
yards per rush	4.3	3.1
yards per game	195.1	123.3
PASSING YARDS	1,395	2,112
attempts	197	268
completions	107	149
had intercepted	8	6
completion percentage	54.3	55.6
yards per game	139.5	211.2
PUNTING YARDS	2,050	1,849
Average Punt	36.6	37.0
Average Punt Return	6.4	12.3
INTERCEPTIONS	6	8
Average Kickoff Return	20.6	22.5
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	165	174
Rushing First Downs	99	70
Passing First Downs	57	90
Penalty First Downs	9	14
PENALTIES (number-yards)	50-461	46-374
TURNOVERS	15	20
SACKS BY (number-yards)	41-269	16-96

THIRD DOWN CONVERSIONS	51-141	66-155
percentage	36.2	42.6
TOTAL POINTS	207	197
points per game	20.7	19.7
Field Goals	9-17	14-19
PAT Kicks	22-24	19-19



**7-3 Overall, 6-2 ACC;
5-0 Home, 2-3 Away;
7-1 Day, 0-2 Night**

Scoring by Quarters	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Clemson	55	64	27	61
Opponents	23	62	66	46

Red Zone Scoring	Pos	TD	FG	TD%
Clemson	28	17	5	60.7
Opponents	26	13	10	50.0

First and Goal	Pos	TD	FG	TD%
Clemson	14	12	2	85.7
Opponents	11	9	1	81.8

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HIGH HOPES FOR DUNNICAN

Senior fullback plans to end season with 500+ yards rushing

TAMMICA PIXLEY
staff writer

Many would call senior fullback Kelton Dunnican the MVP of the last two games against Virginia and N.C. State.

Dunnican rushed for 123 yards on 12 carries against Virginia, including a 54-yard touchdown run which helped to clinch a road victory for the Tigers.

He also collected two touchdowns in the 40-17 win over N.C. State and recovered his third fumble of the year.

"My achievements come as no surprise to me," said Dunnican. "I was given a scholarship to perform as a Division I athlete, and that's what I'm doing right now."

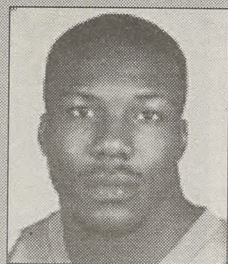
The University of South Carolina, University of Georgia and Georgia Tech are three schools which tried to recruit

Dunnican while he played at North East Junior College in Oklahoma.

After missing an entire season because of a torn ACL, he chose Clemson as the place to finish his college career.

"I have always liked the way Clemson plays football," said Dunnican. "There is a tradition of excellence here that I didn't find at the other schools."

He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, but his family moved to Sumter, S.C., during his sophomore year where he played football at Sumter



THE DUNNICAN FILE

Name: Kelton Dunnican
Born: 11/24/73
Personal Info: 5-11, 206 pounds, *Sr.
Sumter, SC; NE Oklahoma JC
Years lettered: 1994, 1995

Dunnican fact: First junior college transfer in history to play three years for the Tigers.

High School.

Dunnican feels that most of his influence and motivation come from his family.

"My mother brought me up to be a very optimistic person," said Dunnican. "And without my uncle, I wouldn't be at Clemson playing football. He taught me everything I

know about being an aggressive runner."

Dunnican also has two brothers, but one of the most significant members of his family is his three-year old son, Kameron.

"That little boy is my life, and the main reason I feel that my education is so important," said Dunnican. "He thinks that everyone on the football field is me, and everyday when he comes home from daycare, he watches tapes of my games."

Dunnican says that his biggest influences on the team are run-

ning backs Raymond Priester and Emory Smith.

"We always push each other to work hard and to do the little things right," said Dunnican. "We inspire each other to do well."

Dunnican is majoring in Technology and Human Resource Development, and he hopes to teach at the secondary level and possibly coach football.

He has high hopes for his performance as well as the team's throughout the remainder of the season.

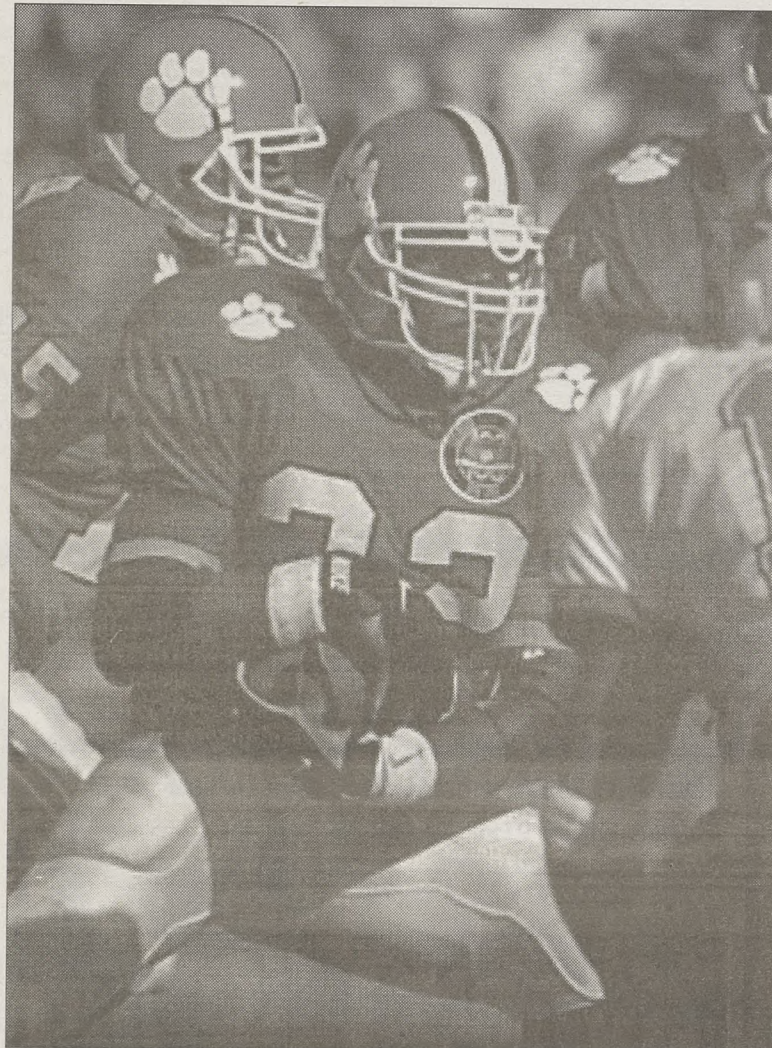
"I would like to finish the season with over 500 yards rushing and to also win a bowl game."

The 23-year old senior graduates in May and says that he has enjoyed his years here at Clemson.

"Being in college will bring you ups and downs," said Dunnican. "But you have to overcome certain things and realize that you can be successful in the end."

Dunnican will celebrate his 23rd birthday on Nov. 24, the day after the Clemson-USC game.

"I hope to be celebrating a big win on that day also," Dunnican said.



MARC DEL VECCHIO/photo editor

THE BIG FINISH: Senior Kelton Dunnican wants to finish this season, his last as a Tiger, with over 500 yards rushing and a bowl victory.

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Offensive Statistics

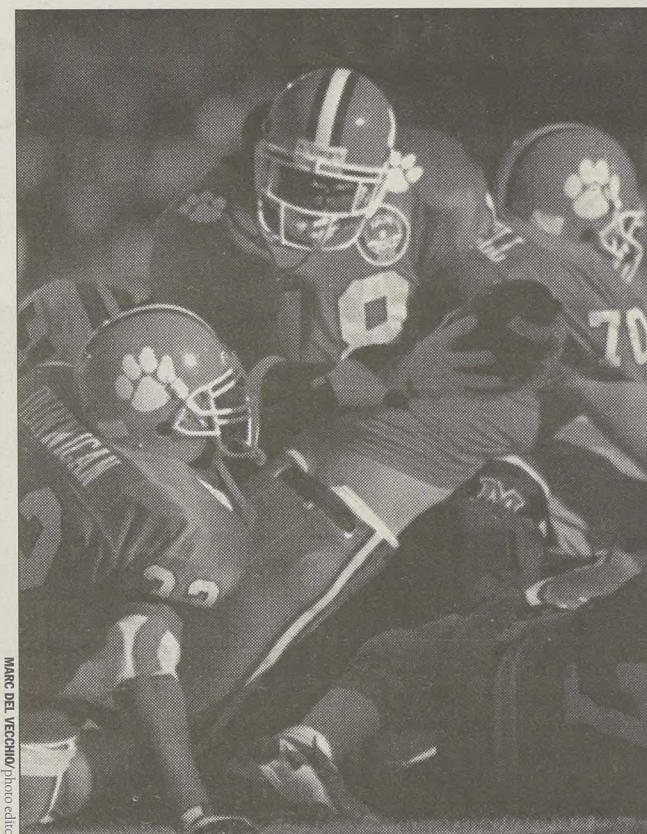
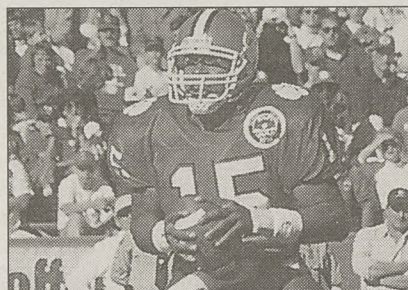
RUSHING	CAR	GAIN	LOST	NET	Y/C	Y/G	TD	LG
Raymond Priester	214	1,087	30	1,057	4.9	105.7	6	35
Kelton Dunnican	66	340	1	339	5.1	33.9	3	54
Emory Smith	65	251	1	250	3.8	25.0	5	21
Sam Zanders	25	137	11	126	5.0	18.0	1	61
Nealon Greene	62	257	98	159	2.6	15.9	2	25

RECEIVING	REC	YDS	Y/REC	Y/G	TD	LG
Kenya Crooks	26	383	14.7	38.3	2	55
Tony Horne	20	339	17.0	67.8	1	80
Joe Woods	24	336	14.0	33.6	3	80
Brian Wofford	11	97	8.8	9.7	0	17
Raymond Priester	11	76	6.9	7.6	0	20
Lamont Hall	6	88	14.7	8.8	0	31

PASSING	CM-ATT-I	YDS	TD	LG	CM%	EFF
Nealon Greene	92-172-7	1,208	6	80	53.5	115.9
Billy Luckie	14-23-0	184	0	33	60.9	128.1
Brandon Streeter	1-2-1	3	0	3	50.0	-37.4

TOTAL OFFENSE	RUSH	PASS	TOT	YDS/G
Nealon Greene	159	1,208	1,367	136.7
Raymond Priester	1,057	0	1,057	105.7
Billy Luckie	6	184	190	38.0
Kelton Dunnican	339	0	339	33.9
Emory Smith	250	0	250	25.0

WHADDAYA WANT? TD!:
Emory Smith (left) scored his 24th and 25th career touchdowns in Clemson's 35-3 victory over Maryland. His 25 TDs rank seventh in Clemson history in total touchdowns. Nealon Greene (below) has 3,269 yards passing now.



MARC DEL VECCHIO/PHOTO EDITOR

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The legend of Coach

► Fans and supporters trek up Cemetery Hill on fall Saturdays to visit with "The Legend" before games.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mary Cox's eyes watered over when she left the grave of Clemson's Frank Howard, the only man she ever considered coach.

"It's hard to believe he's gone, he's such an institution at Clemson," said Mrs. Cox, 66, who lives in Greenville and has attended football games at Death Valley for more than three decades. "I thought he was king of all coaches."

And so do many other Clemson fans and supporters, who this season trek up Cemetery Hill on fall Saturdays to visit with "The Legend" before watching the Tigers.

Howard, the team's coach from 1940-69, died in January. But he left his legacy all over campus.

Inside Memorial Stadium, frenzied players rub Howard's Rock, a boulder set on a pedestal and said to have motivational powers, before entering the field in a traditional and beloved opening.

Outside, people quietly stroll the graveyard beside the stadium, crunching through leaves on the way to Howard's simple gravel-colored headstone.

In pairs or small groups, they move in front, pause to laugh and remember, maybe take a picture or tell their children about Howard's feats.

Newt Clinkscales IV, 79, has followed Clemson and Howard from just down the road in Anderson his whole life.

Before Saturday's win over

Maryland, he walked his grandson, Newt Clinkscales VI, his granddaughter, Heather Shuler and her husband, John Green Shuler, up to visit the coach's grave, tossing in a few memories on the route.

"Like someone said, he lived until he died, he had so much life to him," said John Shuler, who graduated from Clemson three years ago.

Clemson coach Tommy West, who first met Howard when West was a Tigers' assistant in the early 1980s, says he sometimes visits the grave for quiet contemplation.

"When I need to reflect, I'll go there," he said. "Coach Howard's spirit is all over this campus."

The coach's old office at Jervy Gymnasium has mostly been restored to the style Howard had it during his life, with pictures and mementos everywhere, and his porkpie and baseball hats lined up like he liked them, said Bob Bradley, Clemson's sports information director for most of Howard's time.

A television runs video of Howard for visitors, who line up along a rope stretched across the entrance.

Howard's accomplishments at Clemson are too numerous to mention, and the legends that build up around him grow taller every year.

The most energizing legend for Clemson fans is of Howard's rock. The story goes that Howard told his players that if they were going to give maximum effort to rub the rock on the way into the stadium.

But if not, "keep your filthy hands off of my rock."

Harold Lott of Blackville has been a member of IPTAY, Clemson's athletic booster organization, for 40 years and was friends with Howard. This past Saturday was his

"When I need to reflect, I'll go there [Howard's grave]. Coach Howard's spirit is all over this campus."

TOMMY WEST
Head Football Coach

first stop at the coach's grave.

"I just spoke to him down there in that coffin and I said to him, 'I know you'll enjoy this game today,'" Lott said. The Tigers rolled to a 35-3 victory over Maryland.

Bradley, who also owns a plot at Clemson's cemetery, said he once told Howard the site was ideal — about even with the stadium's 50-yard line.

"Coach Howard said he didn't know why everyone wanted to sit by the 50," Bradley said. "No one's ever scored a touchdown there."



THE LEGEND: Frank Howard, the team's coach from 1940-69, has left his legacy all over campus.

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Team Leaders

NAME	HTS	AS	TOT	TFL	SACKS
Anthony Simmons	71	73	144	14-48	7-31
Mond Wilson	44	70	114	6-24	2-15
Raymond White	40	38	78	5-23	2.5-16
Antwan Edwards	45	21	66	1-1	0
Trevor Pryce	31	20	51	14-64	5-50
Adrian Dingle	36	19	55	10-28	5.5-19

PUNTING	NO	YDS	Y/P	NET	LG
Kevin Laird	55	2,026	36.8	32.6	50
Michael Brice	1	24	24.0	14.0	24

FIELD GOALS	0-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOT	FG%	PAT	LG
Matt Padgett	2-2	2-3	2-3	0-0	6-8	75.0	15-16	48
David Richardson	1-2	0-0	1-1	0-0	2-3	66.7	1-1	40
Michael Brice	1-2	0-1	0-3	0-0	1-6	16.7	6-7	23

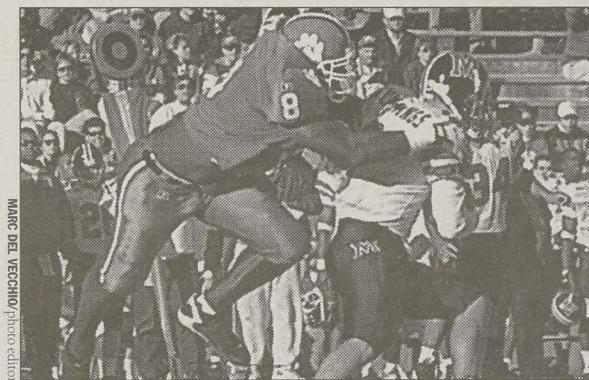
INTERCEPTIONS	NO	YDS	TD	LG
Peter Ford	2	66	1	66
Rahim Abdullah	1	4	0	4
Adrian Dingle	1	0	0	0
Antwan Edwards	1	0	0	0
Mond Wilson	1	7	0	7



PUNT RETURNS	NO	YDS	Y/RET	TD	LG
Dexter McCleon	10	88	8.8	0	51
Antwan Edwards	2	18	9.0	0	14
Tony Horne	2	6	3.0	0	6
Justin Watts	1	0	0.0	0	0
Joe Woods	2	-3	-1.5	0	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	NO	YDS	Y/RET	TD	LG
Tony Horne	8	212	26.5	0	55
Dexter McCleon	4	98	24.5	0	31
Michael Allen	2	43	21.5	0	34
Joe Woods	11	208	18.9	0	33
Sam Zanders	1	15	15.0	0	15
Antwan Edwards	3	43	14.3	0	19

SACKED: Trevor Pryce gets a sack on a Maryland quarterback. This season, Pryce became the first player in Clemson history to record at least four tackles for loss in consecutive games.



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Turnaround Tigers bowl-bound after N.C. State win

► *Tigers are most likely headed to the Peach Bowl on Dec. 28 against an SEC opponent.*

ASSOCIATED PRESS

It seemed more like something created during a player's wishful sleep than reality at Death Valley: fans bolting onto the field, hugging Clemson players and coaches as the large picture scoreboard flashed "Bowl Bound Again! Bowl Bound Again!"

No. 22 Clemson (7-3, 6-2), called a lawless, problem-filled team that could not compete in the Atlantic Coast Conference, clinched a return to the post-season after Saturday's 40-17 win over North Carolina State, its fifth consecutive victory.

The Tigers, who can finish no worse than third in the ACC, are most likely headed to the Peach Bowl on Dec. 28 against a Southeastern Conference opponent.

"It is a great feeling because we have worked so hard and came through so much adversity," said receiver Kenya Crooks, who caught an 18-yard touchdown pass. "To realize you're going to another bowl, that's something special."

It's also something unbelievable when you think where Clemson was two months ago.

Nine players had been arrested between February and September and star receiver Antwan Wyatt,

the Tigers' most dangerous offensive weapon, was kicked off the club for drug possession.

Depth at running back also was missing after tailbacks Lamont Pegues and Rashidi Brown transferred and Anthony Downs was dismissed by coach Tommy West in the same incident as Wyatt.

West thought the Tigers would settle down during the season, but they were demolished 45-0 at North Carolina, looked more like a Division I-AA team against Furman, winning just 19-3, and were stunned at Missouri 38-24.

"We might have looked down on the outside, but we were never down on this team," cornerback Dexter McCleon said. "Everybody kept their heads up and stuck together."

What made this turnaround more improbable is Clemson showed none of its trademarks early in the year. The running game,

which led the ACC with 260 yards a game, was hitting for 120 less than that in its first three games. The dominating defense, second in the conference a year ago, was even worse, giving up 429 yards to North Carolina, 445 yards to Missouri and 453 yards to Florida State.

Gradually, things improved.

Raymond Priester, the ACC's top rusher a year ago, was held to 27 yards against Florida State but has averaged 122 yards a game in Clemson's five straight victories. With 146 yards against North Carolina State, he became the first Clemson runner with back-to-back 1,000-yard years.

Trevor Pryce, a Michigan transfer defensive end, and linebacker Anthony Simmons, last year's star freshman, have revived a group that looked ragged and worn out in September. Pryce has had four sacks and nine tackles for losses during

the streak, while Simmons nailed three sacks and five stops behind the line of scrimmage.

"Everybody knew what we had to do. We had to cut down on a lot of mistakes we were making in the beginning," Simmons said.

The pacing of Clemson's win over N.C. State seemed to match the Tigers' whole season. After letting

the Wolfpack get to 10-9 in the third quarter, the Tigers got rushing touchdowns from Priester and full-back Kelton Dunnican, and the defense came up with four turnovers.

Now, after closing the season with arch-enemy South Carolina, it's onto a bowl game.

"I couldn't have asked for a better

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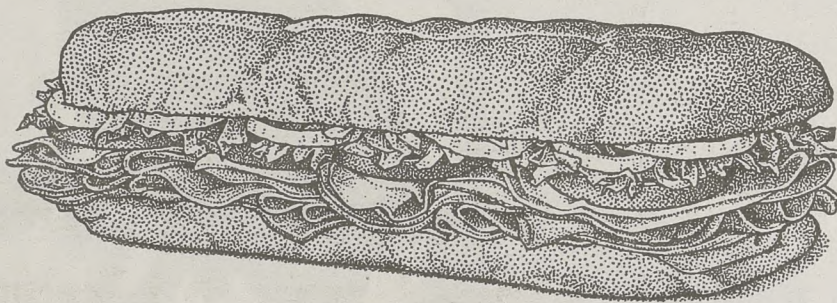
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VICTORY: Tigers celebrate a touchdown at last year's USC game in Columbia. Clemson rolled to a 38-17 win.



OWEN DRISKILL
sports editor

Put the records, polls and point spreads on the backburner and the barbecue on the fire; it's Clemson versus South Carolina.

"The one thing this game does is you don't have to spend a lot of time with the emotional part of it," Head Coach Tommy West said. "Both teams will be very excited to play in this game."

Despite facing their bitter, in-state rival, Clemson players are remarkably diplomatic.

"I'm not saying anything," wide receiver Kenya Crooks said. "I'm trying to run for governor."

The 7-3, 22nd-ranked Tigers enter the contest with a five-game winning streak on the line. The 5-5 Gamecocks

need one more win to become eligible for post-season play.

Crushing USC's bowl hopes, however, is not a top priority on Clemson's agenda.

"We want to win the game," Defensive end and graduate student Brett Williams said. "We're not trying to kick them out of a bowl or whatever. I just want to go out and win the game."

Clemson leads the series the last 10 years with a 6-3-1 record. The road team has emerged victorious in the last five meetings.

"It's going to be a very intense game," linebacker Anthony Simmons said. "It's really the game the fans are waiting for. It's going to be very exciting."

Although the Tigers enter the game on a roll, split end Justin Watts' knee injury may pose a problem for the Tiger offense.

West said Watts may have torn his ACL against N.C. State last week, leaving the Tigers with only four scholar-

ship wide receivers.

"We lost a really good receiver in Justin Watts," Crooks said. "We still have to go out and perform and do the things that got us here."

The Tigers will rely on their rushing attack, especially on junior running back Raymond Priester. Priester has certainly carried his share of the offensive burden during his career.

Last week against N.C. State, Priester became the first player in Clemson history to record two 1,000 yard seasons.

Priester is third on Clemson's all-time rushing list. He needs 57 yards to surpass Terry Allen and 193 yards to become Clemson's career rushing leader.

"With Raymond's running style, I think it's really phenomenal that he is the back that's gone for a 1,000 two years in a row here," West said. "You think that would have to be a back that's going to give you four or five 60, 70-yard runs. He can keep drives going for us because you very seldom

see him moving for great body that he gets

For the yards on 20 carry average scrimmage

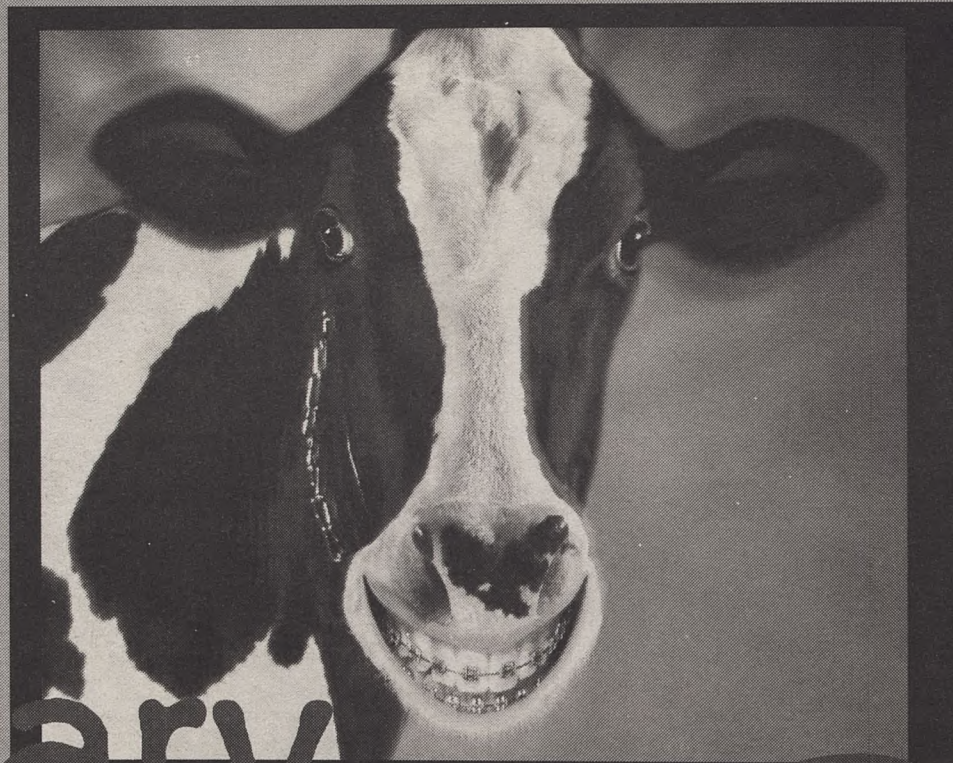
In addition will continue from the Clemson's inside fullback

Against Kelton Dunn fullback carries and Dunnican downs.

"I really gives us a moment at full is a little because he is at full Emory

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see him go backwards. He's always moving forward. He's a back with great body lean. He earns every yard that he gets."

For the season, Priester has 1,057 yards on 214 carries for a 4.9 yards per carry average. His longest run from scrimmage is 35 yards.

In addition, West said the Tigers will continue to need production from the fullback position. In Clemson's offensive scheme, a strong inside fullback game is critical, West said.

Against Virginia, senior fullback Kelton Dunnican bolstered the Tigers fullback attack with 123 yards on 12 carries and a touchdown. Last week, Dunnican scored two more touchdowns.

"I really feel like Kelton Dunnican gives us a little bit of a different element at fullback," West said. "Kelton is a little bit different at fullback because he is almost a tailback playing at fullback."

Emory Smith, who has been side-

lined with a shoulder injury, had one of his best games last week. He rushed for a season-high 56 yards on eight carries.

Gamecock running back Duce Staley, who injured his right ankle Oct. 26, may play against the Tigers. Despite missing two games, Staley is USC's leading rusher. He has gained 983 yards on 196 carries and scored seven touchdowns.

USC quarterback Anthony Wright leads the Gamecock's offensive attack. He's quick, has the scrambling ability to cause a defense fits and possesses a quality throwing arm.

"He's going to definitely be one of their big weapons against us," Williams said. "We're going to definitely have to try to find some way to contain him. If we let him get outside, he'll kill us."

Williams said one of the keys to containing Wright involves reading the offensive lineman's block.

"Your blocker tells you everything that's going to happen," Williams said.

Wright has gained 289 yards on 86 carries, however, he has also amassed 243 yards of lost yardage. Through the air, Wright has completed 56.6% of his passes for 1,730 yards.

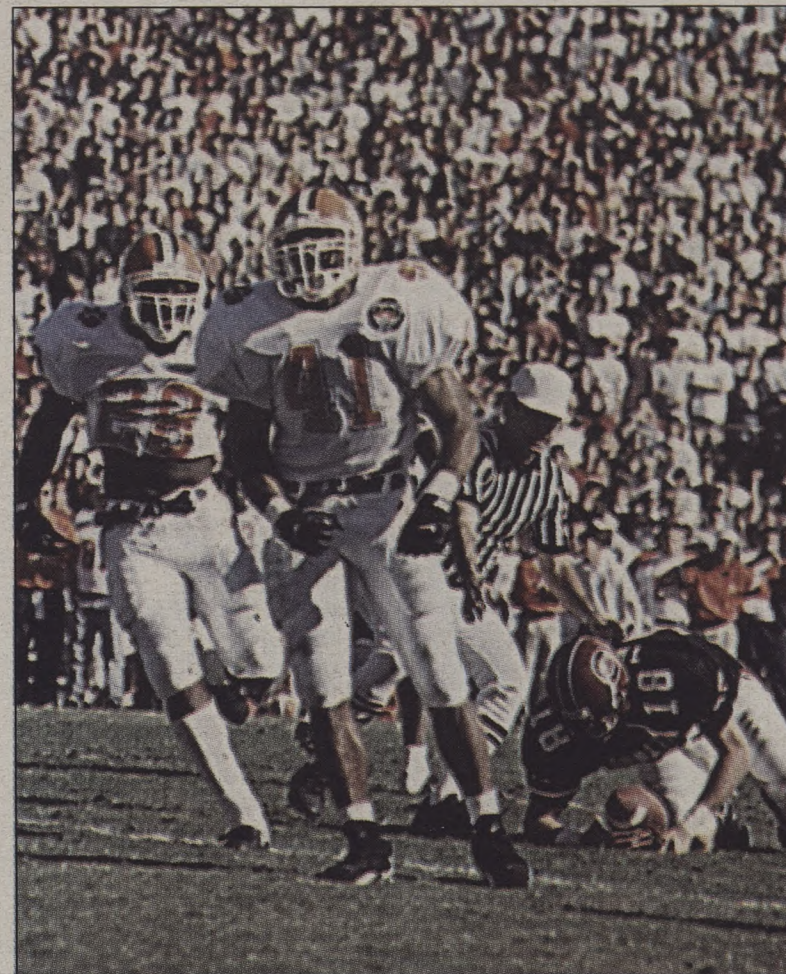
"We're not trying to hurt him, but we're going to leave something on his mind after the game," Simmons said.

Wright's mild demeanor changes the nature of the rivalry. For the past few seasons, Clemson has enjoyed the antics of former USC quarterback Steve Taneyhill for inspiration.

"He was a character," Williams said. "He did add something to the game, swinging his little baseball bat, the long hair, the loud mouth."

Williams, who is playing in his final season for the Tigers, said he hopes his last contest against the Gamecocks provides favorable memories.

"I would love to go out with a bang," Williams said. "This is my last game, this is the last time I'm going to run down the Hill. It's going to be a very emotional game for me."

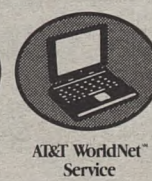


SACK: Anthony Simmons (41) pauses for reflection after downing quarterback Steve Taneyhill. This year a new Gamecock, Anthony Wright, calls the signals.

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Polls

Clemson breaks top 25

Associated Press Top 25

1. Florida (54) (10-0)
2. Ohio State (7) (10-0)
3. Florida State (4) (9-0)
4. Arizona State (2) (10-0)
5. Nebraska (9-1)
6. Colorado (9-1)
7. Penn State (9-2)
8. Brigham Young (11-1)
9. Tennessee (7-2)
10. Notre Dame (7-2)
11. Northwestern (9-2)
12. Washington (8-2)
13. North Carolina (8-2)
14. Kansas State (8-2)
15. Alabama (8-2)
16. Syracuse (7-2)
17. Virginia Tech (8-1)
18. Louisiana State (7-2)
19. Virginia (7-3)
20. Wyoming (10-1)
21. Michigan (7-3)
22. **Clemson (7-3)**
23. West Virginia (8-2)
24. Iowa (7-3)
25. Miami (6-3)

Others receiving votes: Auburn (65), Army (59), Southern Mississippi (43), Texas (15), Utah (14), East Carolina (13), Michigan State (9), Navy (5), Houston (4), Texas Tech (2), Rice (1).

USA Today / CNN Top 25 Coaches Poll

1. Florida 10-0 (46)
2. Ohio State 10-0 (9)
3. Florida State 8-0 (7)
4. Arizona State 10-0
5. Nebraska 9-1
6. Colorado 9-1
7. Brigham Young 11-1
8. Penn State 9-2
9. Virginia Tech 8-1
10. Tennessee 7-2
11. Northwestern 9-2
12. Alabama 8-2
13. Notre Dame 7-2
14. North Carolina 8-2
15. Washington 8-2
16. Kansas State 8-2
17. Syracuse 7-2
18. Louisiana State 7-2
19. Virginia 7-3
19. Wyoming 10-1
21. West Virginia 8-2
22. Michigan 7-3
23. Iowa 7-3
24. **Clemson 7-3**
25. Miami 6-3

Other receiving Votes: Army (91), Auburn (71), Utah (46), Southern Mississippi (22), Navy (13), Texas (9), East Carolina (8), Houston (8), Texas Tech (8), Michigan State (4), San Diego State (2), Colorado State (1).

Dropouts: No. 21 Auburn lost to Georgia 56-49 (4 OT); No. 23 Army lost to Syracuse 42-17.

Bowl Alliance Schedule

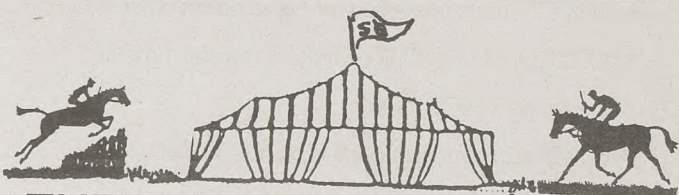
Bowl	Date	Location	Matchup
Las Vegas	Dec. 19	Las Vegas, Nev.	MAC #1 vs. Big West #1
Aloha	Dec. 25	Honolulu, Hawaii	PAC-10 #4 vs. Big 12 #6
Carquest	Dec. 27	Miami, Fla.	Big East #3 vs. ACC #4
Copper	Dec. 27	Tucson, Ariz.	WAC #2 vs. Big 12 #5
Liberty	Dec. 27	Memphis, Tenn.	USA #1 or East Carolina* vs. Big East #4
Peach	Dec. 28	Atlanta, Ga.	ACC #3 vs. SEC #4
Alamo	Dec. 29	San Antonio, Texas	Big Ten #4 vs. Big 12 #4
Holiday	Dec. 30	San Diego, Calif.	WAC #1*** or PAC-10 #2 vs. Big 12 #3
Independence	Dec. 31	Shreveport, La.	At large vs. SEC #5
Orange	Dec. 31	Miami, Fla.	Alliance #4 vs. Alliance #6
Sun	Dec. 31	El Paso, Texas	PAC-10 #5** vs. Big Ten #5
Citrus	Jan. 1	Orlando, Fla.	Big Ten #2 vs. SEC #2
Cotton	Jan. 1	Dallas, Texas	WAC #1 or PAC-10*** #2 vs. Big 12 #2
Fiesta	Jan. 1	Tempe, Ariz.	Alliance #3 vs. Alliance #5
Gator	Jan. 1	Jacksonville, Fla.	ACC #2 vs. Big East #2
Outback	Jan. 1	Tampa, Fla.	SEC #3 vs. Big Ten #3
Rose	Jan. 1	Pasadena, Calif.	PAC-10 #1 vs. Big Ten #1
Sugar	Jan. 2	New Orleans, La.	Alliance #1 vs. Alliance #2

*has option of taking East Carolina if overall record equals or betters that of the Conference USA champion.

**has option of choosing ACC or Big East team if it has better overall record than any available Pac-10 team.

***Cotton chooses first between WAC Champion and Pac-10 second; Holiday Bowl gets the other team.

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from The Tiger staff



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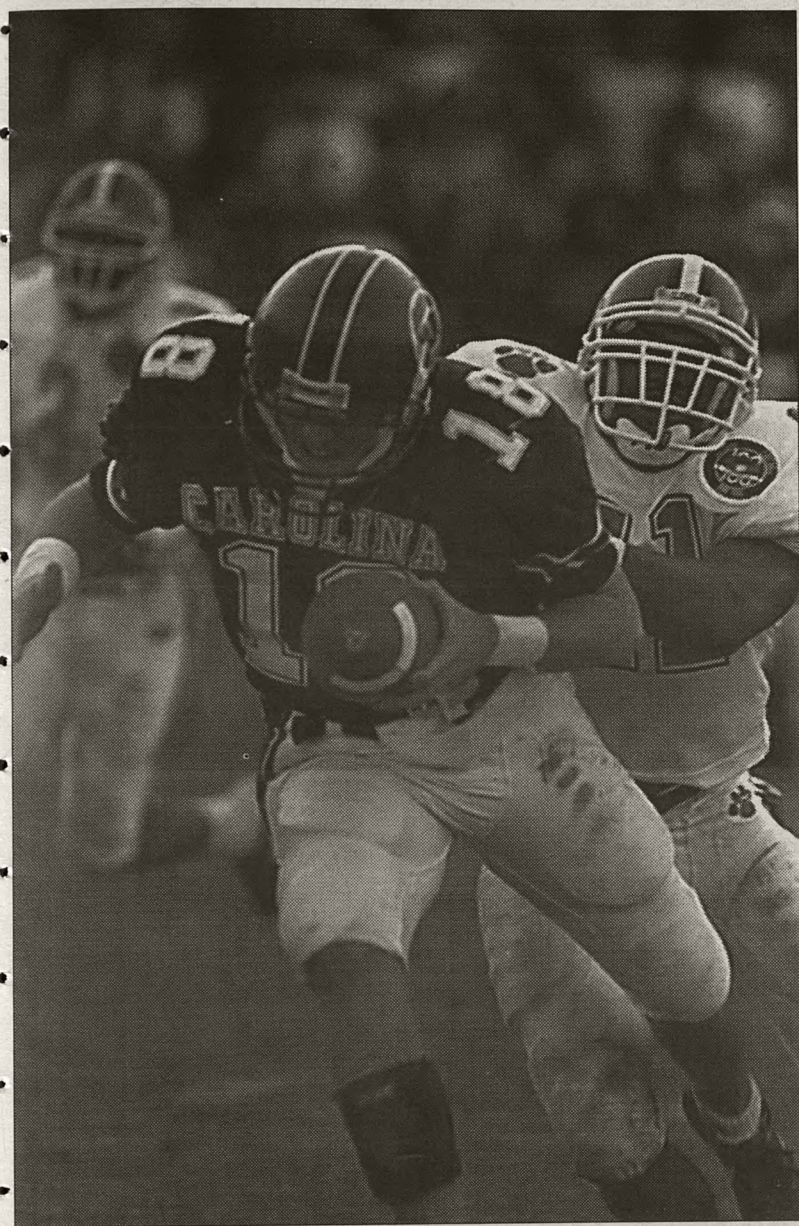
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Tigers hope for sixth straight, USC for bowl bid



► *Tigers hope to crack top 20 with strong 8-3 finish. Clemson began the season with a 2-3 record, but have posted five straight wins.*

ASSOCIATED PRESS

You can always tell when it's time for finals at Clemson, that's when everyone buys the textbooks.

Didn't think that was funny?

How about this: Some said O.J. Simpson should have fled to South Carolina because nobody would have thought to look for a football player there.

It's a time for bad jokes, a week fans across South Carolina have waited for all year. A week when families divide and offices are split along orange and garnet lines.

It's Clemson-South Carolina week with a lot more than Palmetto pride on the line.

"I don't want to talk about South Carolina yet," Clemson receiver Kenya Crooks said Saturday. "I'll worry about it all week."

If the Tigers (7-3) take this week's game at Death Valley, they enhance their bowl credentials and maybe play their way into a New Year's Day contest.

Should the Gamecocks (5-5) triumph, they would qualify for the post-season in a year few thought they'd get out of Southeastern Conference basement.

A month ago, it looked like this game would be critical to both teams' bowl chances, but

Clemson took the pressure off itself with five straight victories.

The Tigers' last one, 40-17 over North Carolina State last Saturday, gave them the necessary six Division I wins for the Peach Bowl on Dec. 28, their most likely site.

However, by beating the Gamecocks and if North Carolina unexpectedly falls to Duke, Clemson would finish second in the ACC and perhaps re-claim the Gator Bowl on New Year's Day.

Last season, the second-place Tigers fell to Syracuse 41-0.

South Carolina headed into its final month needing one victory in its last three games for a bowl trip.

But a lingering injury to star tailback Duce Staley—he's not played since early against Vanderbilt on Oct. 26—has hurt the Gamecocks in losses to Tennessee and top-ranked Florida.

Staley's status is up in the air for Saturday, and even if he's healthy, South Carolina coach Brad Scott knows how well the Tigers are playing.

"Clemson is a team with a lot of momentum," Scott said. "Clemson might be the hottest team in the country. They are going to be very tough up there."

But home field hasn't mattered much the past few years. Since 1991, the visiting team has won the annual season-ending matchup.

Two years ago, South Carolina won 33-7 at Death Valley to land a spot in the Carquest Bowl.

Clemson players don't want to see the Gamecocks dancing around on their Tiger paw this

"Clemson is a team with a lot of momentum. [They] might be the hottest team in the country. They are going to be very tough up there."

BRAD SCOTT

South Carolina Head Football Coach

week and would much rather send them home for the year.

"That would top our season off," Clemson linebacker Anthony Simmons said.



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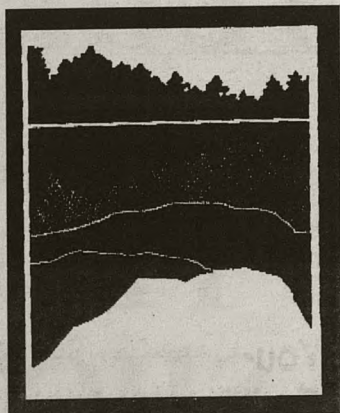
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CHASING A CHICKEN: Clemson player prepares to tackle former USC quarterback Steve Taneyhill. The Tigers hope to repeat last year's victory over the Gamecocks in Columbia, 38-17.

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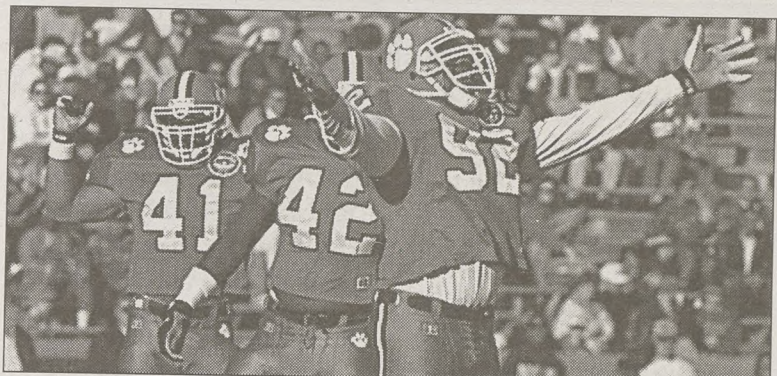
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MARC DEL VECCHIO/photo editor

CAUSE AND EFFECT: With a 6-2 ACC record, the Tigers could potentially earn a Gator Bowl bid if Duke upsets UNC Saturday.

ACC Standings

TEAM	CONFERENCE	OVERALL	LAST	NEXT
FSU	7-0	9-0	W/SoMiss (54-14)	at Maryland
Clemson	6-2	7-3	W/N.C. State (40-17)	vs. USC
UNC	5-2	8-2	L/UV a(20-17)	at Duke
UVa	5-3	7-3	W/UNC (20-17)	idle
Ga Tech	4-4	5-4	L/Maryland (13-10)	vs. Navy
Maryland	3-4	5-5	W/GaTech (13-10)	vs. FSU
N.C. State	2-5	2-7	L/Clemson (40-17)	vs. Wake
Wake Forest	1-8	3-7	W/Duke (17-16)	at N.C. State
Duke	0-7	0-10	L/Wake (17-16)	vs. UNC

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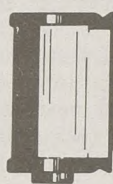
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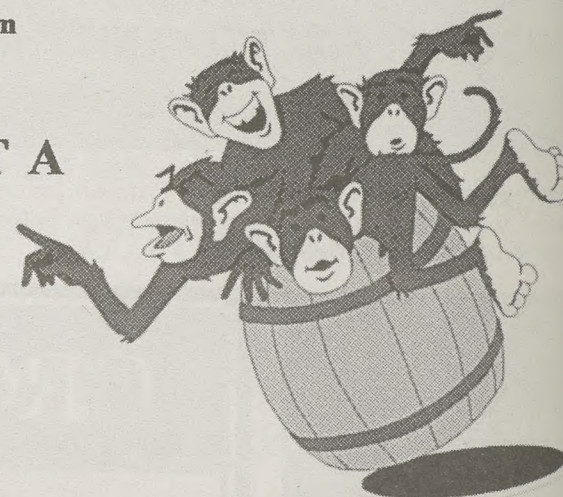
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SEC scenarios cloud Gamecock's bowl chances

► Even if the Gamecocks prove victorious Saturday, a bowl bid could remain just out of Carolina's grasp

ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Carolina's bowl chances get cloudier every week. Even a win over the Gamecocks' biggest rival, No. 22 Clemson, might not be enough to lift the fog.

The Southeastern Conference's bowl picture is so muddled and confusing that a 6-5 finish by the Gamecocks, who play at Death Valley on Saturday, doesn't guarantee a bowl trip.

"There are so many scenarios out there, so many 'If this, then that's' it's not even worth speculating on," coach Brad Scott said Monday. "Because if we don't win the ballgame, obviously, it

doesn't matter."

South Carolina went into Clemson's Memorial Stadium two years ago in a similar situation and came out with a 33-7 victory and a spot in the Carquest Bowl.

But there are five bowls with SEC tie-ins and eight league teams that can finish with six victories.

Throw out No. 1 Florida, which will advance to the bowl alliance and compete for a national title, and everything else is up for grabs.

Is Auburn, which could lose its last game to Alabama, more attractive with three straight losses than South Carolina?

Is Mississippi State, which could win six games by topping Arkansas and Ole Miss, a better draw for the Independence Bowl in Shreveport, La., than the Gamecocks?

Could Georgia, which lost to

"All this shuffling talk is going to have an effect on us, but I think we can handle it."

ANTHONY WRIGHT

South Carolina quarterback

South Carolina two months ago, nose out the Gamecocks by beating Ole Miss and Georgia Tech for its six victories?

If conferences can't fill requirements for bowl teams, can South Carolina slip in?

"All this shuffling talk is going to have an effect on us, but I think we can handle it," quarterback Anthony Wright said. "The bowls get to choose; it's not necessarily a placement thing. So you never know who the bowls are going to pick."

Scott said South Carolina's bowl fate won't dim his club's

intensity in its Tigertown tussle. To make sure, Scott is closing practices all week and limiting player contact with the media.

"This is a different game with a different hype," Scott said. "That's just one or two less distractions for a team as they prepare for a game like this."

Scott kept the players off limits the week before Mississippi State in September. The Gamecocks then lost 14-10.

More troubling could be tail-back Duce Staley's right ankle, which has not healed as quickly as Scott and the team hoped.

The senior was only 17 yards shy of 1,000 rushing when he severely sprained his ankle against Vanderbilt on Oct. 26.

Scott and Staley had hoped he'd be back to play the top-ranked Gators, a 52-25 winner, last week. The coach desperately would like to get Staley his milestone.

"Surely, I expect Duce to be able to participate in the game Saturday," Scott said. "In what capacity, I don't know."

Staley will run some in practice, but won't see contact until later in the week, Scott said.

The Gamecocks will start

"I expect Duce [Staley] to be able to participate in the game Saturday. In what capacity, I don't know."

BRAD SCOTT

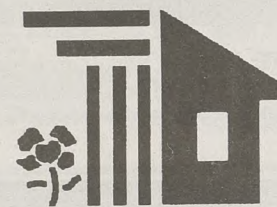
South Carolina Head Coach

freshman Troy Hambrick, who gained 120 yards at Florida last week.

Boo Williams, who ran for 110 yards in a loss against Tennessee, will be backup.



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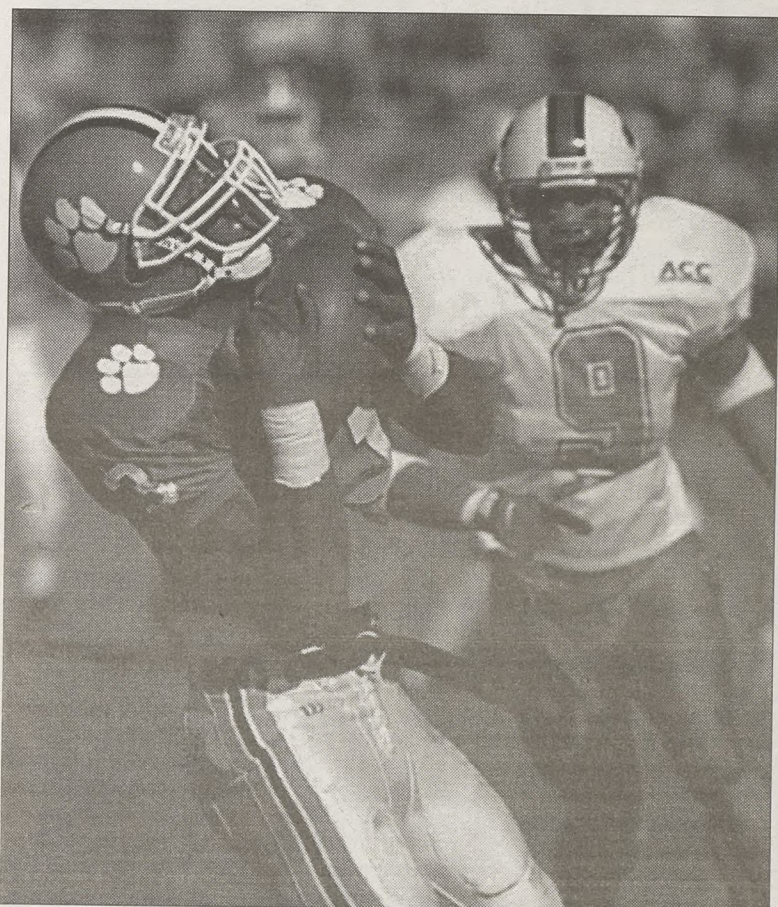
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MARC DEL VECCHIO/photo editor

PASS COMPLETE: Kenya Crooks catches a perfect pass from Nealon Greene in the Tigers' game against N.C. State. Last year, Crooks caught 21 passes, a Clemson record for a true freshman.

RECORD SETTER

Receiver Kenya Crooks proves hard work, determination pay off

TAMMICA PIXLEY
staff writer

Not many football players have the opportunity to break records during their freshman year, but Kenya Crooks came to Clemson and did just that.

He tied tailback Raymond Priester for the most starts by a first-year freshman with eight. He also set the Clemson record for receptions by a true freshman with 21.

Crooks caught for 208 yards that year and was only six yards away from the record held since 1983 by Terrance Roulhac.

His first reception as a Tiger was a 13-yard touchdown pass at the N.C. State game in 1994.

Despite all of his early success, Crooks said that he had a hard time when he first got to Clemson.

"It was hard to adjust during my freshman year here at

Clemson," said Crooks. "There's a lot more to playing football in college than there was to playing in high school."

Crooks was ranked as the 13th-best wide receiver in the nation during his high school years, and, according to his coach, he earned the honor.

"Kenya is a very hard-working and determined player," said Rick Stockstill, Clemson wide receiver coach. "He wants to be the best player that he can possibly be, and he'll do whatever it takes to get there."

The Seneca native has always wanted to attend Clemson because he grew up with the Tigers, and it gives him the opportunity to be close to his family.

"There is no one in life that I look up to more than my parents," said Crooks. "I still have a close relationship with them since I am so near, and I have the chance to be around to bother my little sister

like an older brother should."

His 12-year-old sister is part of the reason Crooks chose to major in sociology.

"If I don't play professional football, I want to be a social worker or something along those lines," said Crooks. "I love kids."

Crooks takes his leadership role on the team as seriously as he takes his big brother role at home.

"Some people lead by word-of-mouth while others lead by action, and I try to do both," said Crooks.

One of the players who has inspired Crooks in the past is Brian Dawkins.

"He always just did what he had to do on the field every day," said Crooks. "He was very dedicated, and I try to apply his way of thinking to my own game."

—Reprinted from Sept. 27 edition

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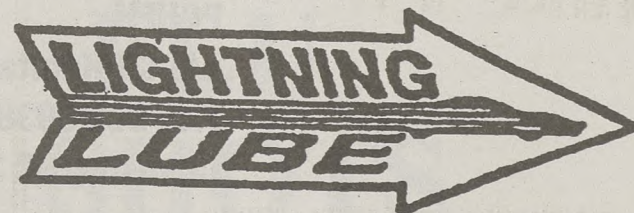
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Sept. 21	at Missouri	38-24 loss
Sept. 28	WAKE FOREST	21-10 win
Oct. 5	at Florida State	34-3 loss
Oct. 12	at Duke	13-6 win
Oct. 19	GEORGIA TECH	28-25 win
Nov. 2	MARYLAND	35-3 win
Nov. 9	at Virginia	24-16 win
Nov. 16	N.C. STATE	40-17 win
Nov. 23	SOUTH CAROLINA	

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WORKING OVERTIME

Place kicker puts in extra hours as third baseman

OWEN DRISKILL
sports editor

Two-sport athlete Matt Padgett admits he is no Deion Sanders.

Yet, Clemson's baseball third baseman and football placekicker has elevated the Tigers' special teams to primetime status.

"He is a tremendous competitor," football head coach Tommy West said. "He's got a lot of pride, wants to do his job well and works hard at it. He's really given us a big lift."

Padgett, who is from Lexington, S.C., has hit 6-8 field goals this season and nailed 15-16 extra points.

The key to his success lies partially with his kicking method, which involves both positive thought and requests for divine guidance.

"As I come at it, I'm just thinking about hitting it the best I can, just getting it over the line," Padgett said. "I'm just praying for the best."

Prior to his emergence as the kicking specialist, Clemson's other two kickers, Michael Brice and David Richardson, were a combined 3-9 in field goals.

Padgett, who played free safety and fullback in high school, is a place kicker with the tenacity of a defensive player. He said he likes to kickoff because he might get to make a tackle.

Coach West said he did not know if Padgett was a powerful hitter.

"I don't put him in tackling drills," West said. "He ought to be, he's a good enough athlete."

In addition, head baseball coach Jack Leggett said Padgett's chances for a tackling-related injury are low.

"He's too tough to get hurt," Leggett said.

Padgett, however, can occasionally bear too much burden for his mistakes.

Against Duke, West said he had to pull Padgett off kickoff duties because the Tiger kicker was intensely upset with himself for missing a field goal.

"I get pretty angry with myself," Padgett said. "I blame it all on myself."

Padgett came back to hit two-in-a row against the Blue Devils, and Clemson won 13-6.

"Matt is a very, very competitive kid," Leggett said. "He just has to be a little less tough on himself, and he knows that."

Padgett's success has not created a rift between himself and Brice and Richardson. Padgett said he often hangs out with Richardson and said he has a strong, positive relationship with Brice. Brice, the early season starter, booted into a slump quickly, making only one field goal in six attempts.

"I felt real bad for Mike," Padgett said. "It's tough to be in a slump. Going through baseball, I know it is. I have no hard feelings, and he doesn't either. We get along great in practice."

Padgett said he became the starter following the Florida State game. Against the Seminoles, Padgett scored the Tigers' only

points by splitting the uprights on a 29-yard attempt.

"We had practice that Sunday," Padgett said. "Coach West told me after practice the job was mine to lose, but there would still be competition every week. I went straight home and called my Dad and told him that I was going to get the start the next week."

Padgett's collegiate football career actually began last fall. Yet, senior Jeff Sauve was firmly entrenched in the position, so Padgett left the team for baseball practice.

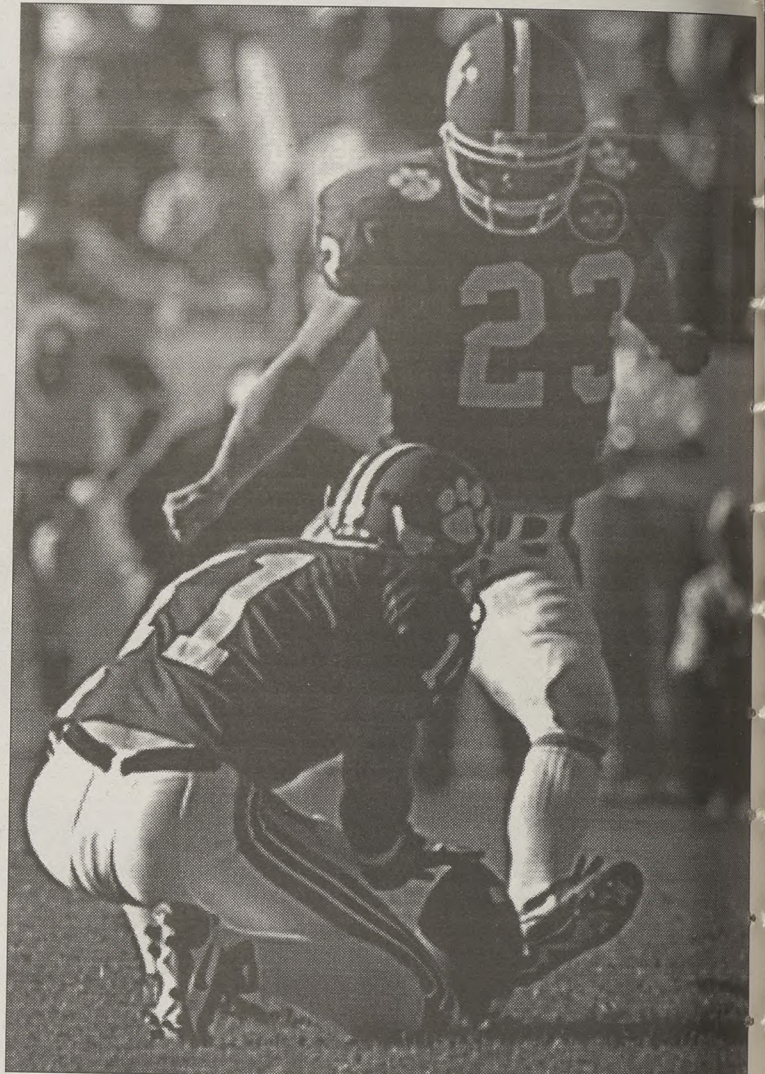
This season, with Sauve's graduation, the door to kicking chores was reopened.

"This year, we really hadn't settled the kicking duties going into the first game," West said. "So, we told him he needed to stay with us, nothing was set in stone yet."

Running down the Hill in Death Valley has fulfilled a boyhood dream for Padgett. In addition, he has performed in front of a crowd of several thousand fans compared to the hundreds which attend baseball games.

However, Padgett does not expect a letdown when he moves from the frenzied environment of Memorial Stadium to the chilly games and sparse crowds which mark the early part of baseball season.

"I love playing the game of baseball," Padgett said. "I never have a letdown playing baseball even if it's just playing in the backyard with a few friends."



TWO TIMER: Matt Padgett kicks a field goal against Maryland. Padgett also plays third base for the Tiger baseball team.

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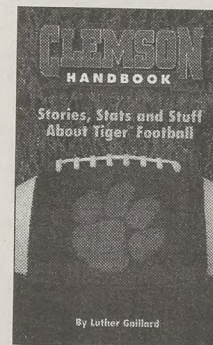
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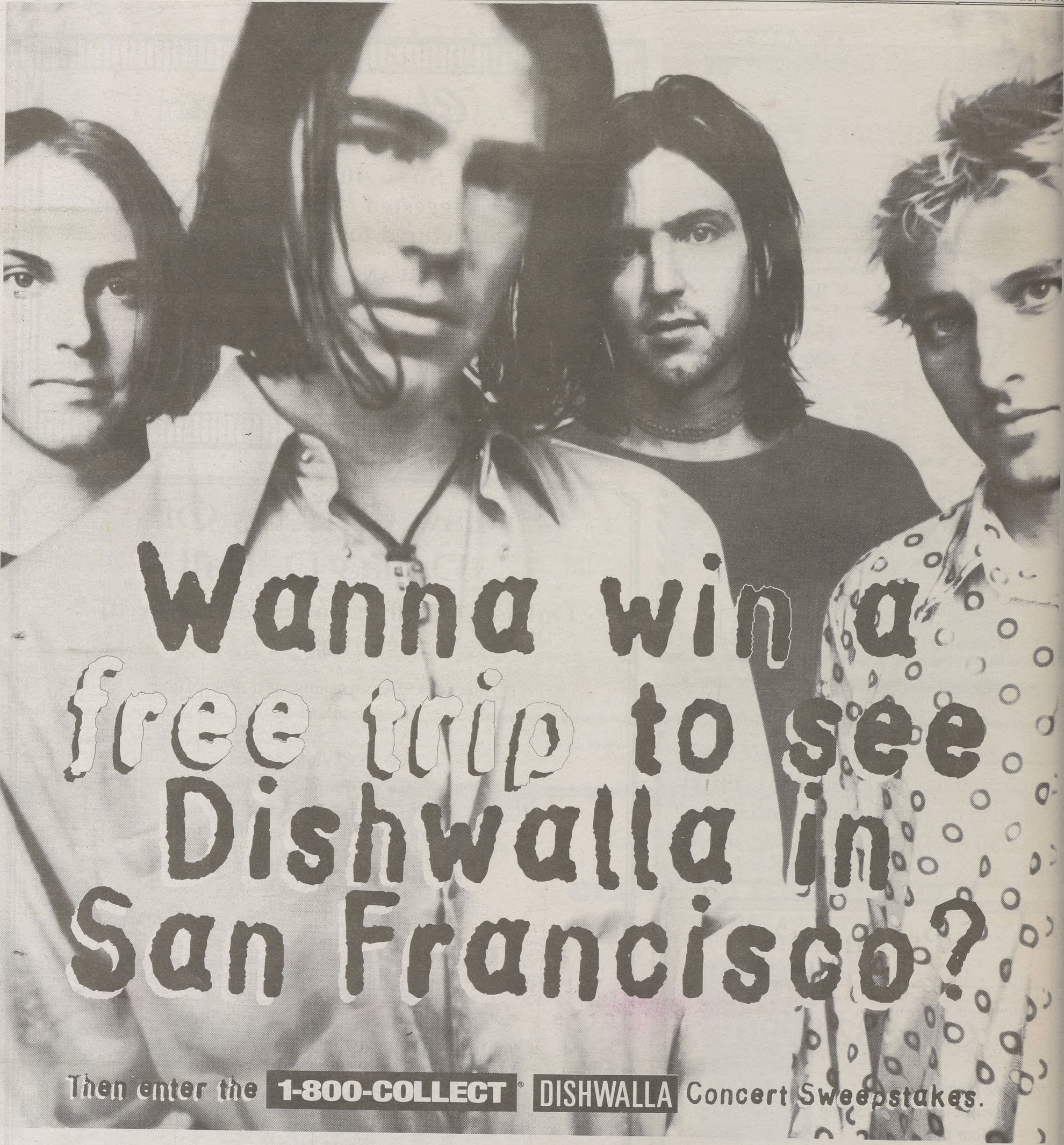
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